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THE Farm Income SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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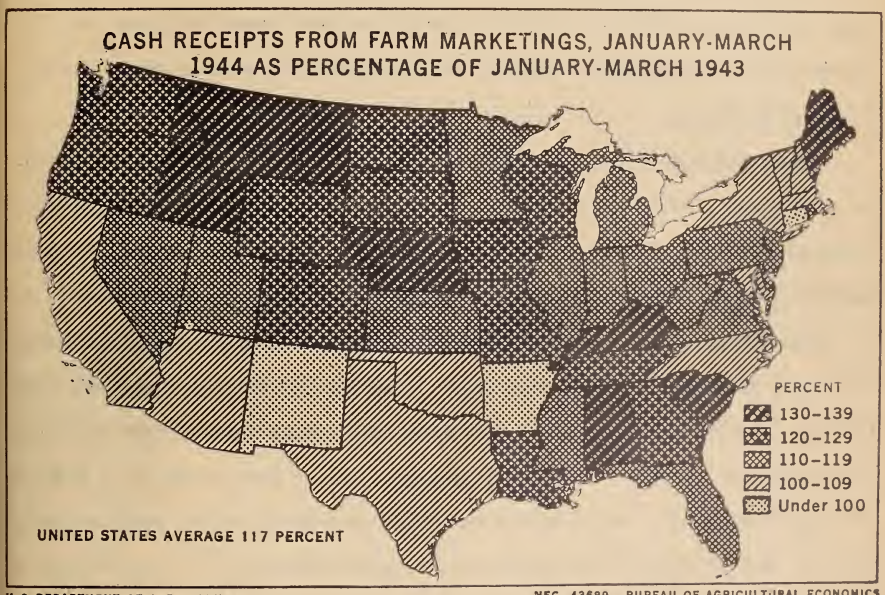


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43689 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Receipts from the farm marketings in the first quarter for 1944 fell below the receipts in the corresponding quarter a year earlier in Connecticut, Arkansas and New Mexico, but was more than a third greater in Alabama, Nebraska, and Idaho. By regions, the West North Central States registered the highest average gains, and the North Atlantic States the lowest. Heavy marketings of hogs and potatoes made substantial contributions to the increases in cash receipts.

THE FARM INCOME SITUATION

Preliminary Estimates for April

Total cash receipts from farm marketings in April of 1,404 million dollars were 2 percent less than the income of 1,433 million dollars in March, but about 6 percent greater than a year earlier. This year the decline in receipts from crops from March to April was less than usual but there was a slight drop in income from livestock and livestock products instead of the customary increase.

Receipts from feed grains and hay fell off, because decreased sales of corn, although at slightly higher prices, were not sufficient to bring about as large an income as usual in relation to March. Income from tobacco dropped sharply, because of the sale of unusually small quantities of cigar tobacco in the North Atlantic region. Receipts from food grains declined in April, largely because of the drop in income from wheat in comparison with the large receipts in March. Marketings of soybeans increased, and income from oil-bearing crops rose, although receipts from peanuts dropped. Income from truck crops increased more than seasonally, as receipts from onions rose to more than twice the March figure. The relatively short late onion crop of 1943 provided an inadequate supply for storage, and marketings were small during the winter. The situation was greatly relieved in April by large shipments of the early crop from southern Texas. In spite of greatly increased marketings during April, onion prices remained relatively high.

Preliminary estimates of marketings of meat animals for April show increased sales of cattle and calves, but reduced marketings of hogs and sheep and lambs during April compared with March. Slightly increased prices for

cattle and sheep and lambs were offset by correspondingly low prices for calves and hogs. Income from meat animals was somewhat less than for March.

Receipts from dairy products rose 6 percent above March, which was 5 percent higher than generally occurs. This rise was due to the unusually large increase in the quantity of fluid milk sold.

Marketings of eggs and chickens increased, but prices dropped slightly, and the quantity of broilers sold declined 28 percent from the quantity sold in March. Income from poultry and eggs decreased 7 percent, instead of making the customary gain.

The preliminary estimate of total cash receipts from farm marketings for the first 4 months was 5,716 million dollars, compared with 5,019 million dollars in 1943. Higher prices were particularly important in bringing about increased returns from nearly all crops. Larger marketings of cattle, calves, and hogs resulted in a gain of 21 percent in receipts from meat animals, while slightly higher sales of fluid milk both at wholesale and at retail, along with somewhat more favorable prices, were responsible for the 8 percent increase in receipts from dairy products.

Summary

Cash receipts from crop marketings in the United States in March were 6 percent above the same month in 1943, while receipts from livestock and livestock products were 11 percent greater than a year earlier.

By regions, receipts from crops varied from 5 percent below March 1943 in the South Central region to 29 percent above in the West North Central region. While cash returns from wheat and vegetables in the South Central region showed substantial increases over last year, receipts from cotton dropped sharply. In the West North Central region, the relatively large

increase in receipts from crops was due mostly to the significant gains in income from wheat and corn. Receipts from wheat were particularly large in North Dakota where even though incomes from other crops showed relatively small gains, receipts from all crops were 60 percent above March last year.

The largest percentage gain in any State from income from crops in March, compared with the same month last year, was 84 percent in Montana, where especially large receipts from wheat were again responsible for the large increase.

New Mexico had the greatest percentage decline in income from crops -- a drop of 62 percent. Receipts from cotton were particularly low in this State in March in relation to March 1943.

Returns from livestock and livestock products were more uniform through the country. By regions, receipts ranged from 1 percent below March 1943 in the South Central region to .187 percent above in the West North Central region. In the South Central region, income from cattle and calves fell off noticeably in Texas, resulting in the largest percentage decline of any State.

In the West North Central region, receipts from meat animals were high in all States especially in Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota.

Receipts from crops for the first 3 months ranged from 11 percent above the same period in 1943 in the South Atlantic region to 21 percent above in the South Central region. Although income from most of the important crops was up in the South Atlantic region, receipts from oil-bearing crops were low in all States. In the South Central region, large gains were made in income from cotton and tobacco. New Mexico showed the largest percentage drop of any State for the first quarter -- the decline of 36 percent was due largely to decreases in receipts from cotton, wheat, corn, and beans. Large gains in income from cotton were mostly responsible for the 97 percent rise in receipts from crops in Alabama.

Table 1.- Monthly farm marketings, United States

Part 1 Cash income

Source of income	Jan.-Apr. 1943	Jan.-Apr. 1944	Apr. 1943	Mar. 1944 1/	Apr. 1944 2/
	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars	Million dollars
Income from farm marketings	5,019	5,716	1,322	1,433	1,404
All crops	1,626	1,886	367	437	423
Food grains	132	174	30	55	41
Feed grains and hay	326	375	72	91	80
Cotton and cottonseed	236	238	26	25	26
Oil-bearing crops	109	103	32	26	31
Tobacco	108	147	5	10	2
Vegetables	395	436	114	116	120
Fruits and nuts	181	227	47	60	62
All livestock	3,393	3,830	955	996	981
Meat animals	1,829	2,208	486	569	535
Dairy products	843	909	235	230	244
Poultry and eggs	683	680	210	194	181
Government payments	336	292	65	77	68
Total income including Government payments	5,355	6,008	1,387	1,510	1,472

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

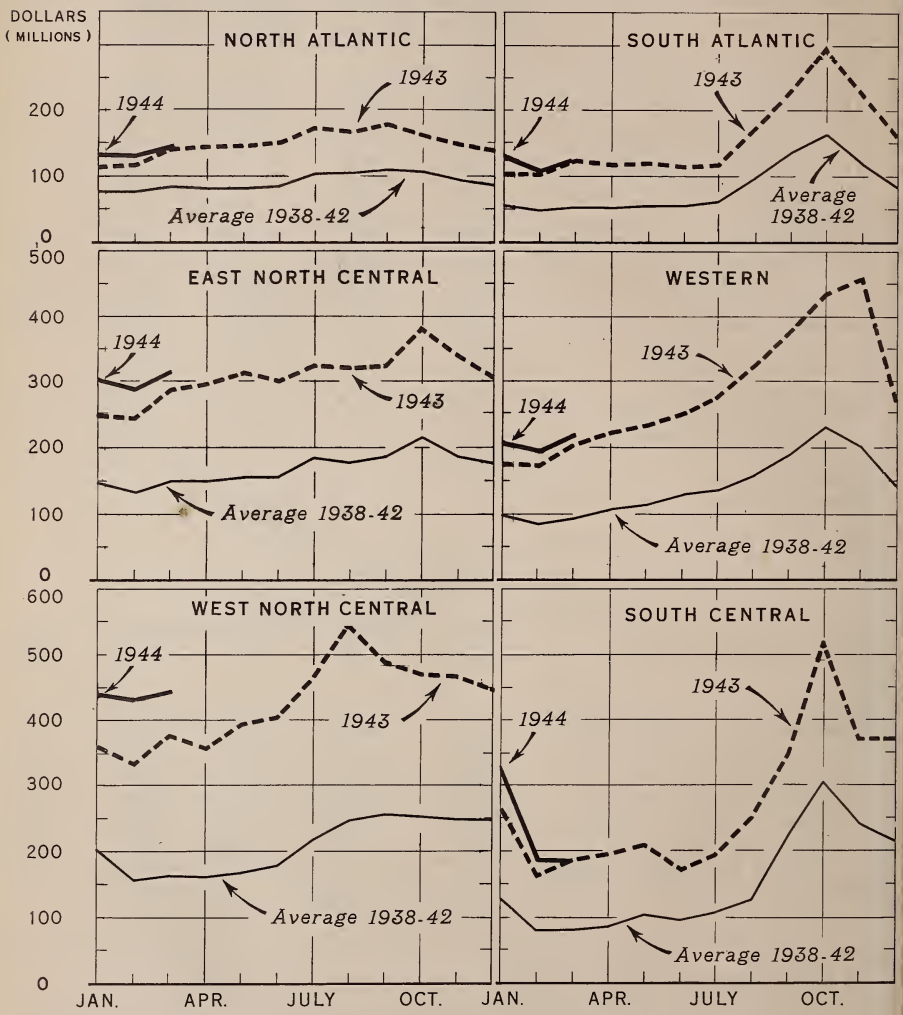
Part 2 Index numbers of income
1935-39 = 100

(Not including Government payments)

Source of income	Apr. 1943	Jan. 1944	Feb. 1944	Mar. 1944 1/	Apr. 1944 2/
Income from farm marketings:					
Total income, unadjusted	199.0	231.0	202.0	215.5	211.5
Total income, adjusted 3/	261.0	1/ 260.0	1/ 276.0	274.0	270.5
All crops, adjusted	272.0	278.5	271.5	276.5	282.0
All livestock, adjusted	254.0	1/ 248.0	1/ 279.0	272.0	263.0
Meat animals, adjusted	284.0	281.0	333.5	322.5	308.0
Dairy products, adjusted	202.0	191.0	201.0	199.5	208.5
Poultry and eggs, adjusted	276.5	1/ 273.0	1/ 286.5	283.5	252.0
Income of industrial workers, adjusted 4/	300.2	318.9	320.7	318.1	

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.
4/ Based on pay rolls of factory workers and railroad and mining employees, adjusted for seasonal variation.

CASH INCOME FROM FARM MARKETINGS, BY REGIONS, 1943-44 COMPARED WITH 1938-42 AVERAGE



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 29566 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

FIGURE 1

Part 3 Index numbers of physical volume
1935-39 = 100

Year and month	Total volume of farm marketings: Unadjusted	Total volume of farm marketings: Adjusted	All crops adjusted	All livestock adjusted	Meat animals adjusted	Dairy products adjusted	Poultry and eggs adjusted
1943							
Apr.	114	136	128	141	151	117	161
1944							
Jan.	135	143	130	1/ 153	166	1/ 120	181
Feb.	121	1/ 150	127	1/ 167	195	1/ 118	186
Mar. 1/	127	156	143	165	193	117	180
Apr. 2/	124	147	133	157	183	116	166

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

Cash receipts from livestock and livestock products for the period January through March were only 4 percent above 1943 in the South Central region, where receipts from cattle and calves were low in Texas. In the West North Central region, income was up in every State for meat animals, poultry and eggs, and dairy products. Total receipts from livestock and livestock products gained 25 percent.

-- May 27, 1944

STATE AND REGIONAL ESTIMATES

North Atlantic Region

Cash receipts from crop marketings in the North Atlantic region for March were 11 percent higher than for March 1943. Income from tobacco and potatoes was up, while receipts from truck crops and hay declined.

Income from livestock and livestock products in March increased 2 percent over 1943, with receipts from chickens making the greatest gain of any single commodity. Income from eggs was down slightly.

For the first 3 months, total receipts from crops increased 20 percent over last year, with income from hay, potatoes, and apples rising sharply.

Receipts from livestock and livestock products for the first quarter were 7 percent above last year. Income from hogs, chickens, and milk increased in the region as a whole, but particularly in Pennsylvania.

East North Central Region

Cash receipts from crops in the East North Central region in March were 4 percent higher than for the same month last year. Income from corn, hay, potatoes, and beans was up in nearly all States where those products are grown for sale, but receipts from soybeans and truck crops declined.

Receipts from livestock and livestock products in March rose 12 percent above March 1943, largely because of marked increases in receipts from hogs, cattle, and milk sold at wholesale. Income from eggs was down in all States except Michigan and Wisconsin.

Receipts from crops for the first 3 months increased 14 percent over the same period last year. Income from corn, tobacco, and potatoes, and hay rose sharply, and income from truck crops declined.

Receipts from hogs, cattle, and milk sold at wholesale made substantial gains, resulting in an increase of 18 percent during the first quarter over the same period last year in receipts from livestock and livestock products.

West North Central Region

Cash receipts from crops in March for the West North Central region were 29 percent greater than for the same month in 1943. Largest gains were made by wheat and corn, while income from soybeans and barley fell off slightly, compared with last year.

Substantial rises in receipts from hogs in all States brought about a gain of 44 percent in income from hogs for the region in March, compared with a year earlier. Marked increases in receipts from cattle and milk, which were partly offset by decreased income from eggs, also helped to bring about the gain of 18 percent in receipts from livestock and livestock products for the region as a whole.

Income from wheat made outstanding gains in the entire region for the period January through March, compared with a year earlier. Increased income from corn, oats, and potatoes, also contributed to the increase of 17 percent in cash receipts from all crops.

The gain of 25 percent in income from livestock and livestock products for the period January through March was largely a result of sharp increases in nearly all States from cattle, hogs, chickens, and milk sold at wholesale.

South Atlantic Region

Cash income from crops in the South Atlantic region in March was 1 percent below March 1943. Increases in income from citrus fruits, sweetpotatoes, and hay were more than offset by decreases in income from truck crops and peanuts.

Receipts from livestock and livestock products in March rose 10 percent above the same month last year, mostly because of increased income from milk, broilers, chickens, and hogs.

Receipts from crops for the first quarter were 11 percent above a year earlier. Income from citrus fruits, tobacco, feed crops, and sweetpotatoes was especially high, while receipts from oil-bearing crops and truck crops were low.

Nearly all States showed marked gains in income from hogs, broilers, milk, and chickens resulting in a 16 percent increase in total receipts from livestock and livestock products for the region during the first 3 months, compared with the same period last year.

South Central Region

Total cash income from crops for March in the South Central region was 5 percent below March 1943. Increased receipts from wheat, sweetpotatoes, fruits, sorghums, and hay were more than offset by a substantial decline in income from cotton.

Increases in receipts from hogs and milk were not sufficient to prevent a 1 percent decrease in income from livestock and livestock products during March compared with March 1943, as income from cattle dropped sharply.

In the entire region, receipts from crops for the first 3 months were 21 percent above a year earlier. Income from tobacco showed the most outstanding gain, with noticeable increases also in income from grain sorghums, sweetpotatoes, hay, and citrus fruits and a significant decrease in income from rice

Receipts from hogs, chickens, and milk for the period January through March increased sharply in relation to a year earlier, but income from cattle made a substantial decline, especially in Texas. As a result, the gain in receipts from livestock and livestock products for the entire region was only 4 percent.

Western Region

Cash receipts from wheat showed large gains throughout the Western region, and in March were more than two and one-half times as high as in the same month last year. Income from citrus fruits, potatoes, dry edible beans, and hay also increased sharply. Receipts from cotton and truck crops dropped, and total income from crops for the region was up only 4 percent above March 1943.

Receipts from livestock and livestock products in March increased 11 per cent over the same month in 1943. Outstanding gains were made in income from cattle, hogs, and calves, while receipts from eggs dropped.

Marked increases in receipts from wheat, potatoes, and citrus fruits for the first 3 months were largely responsible for the gain of 13 percent in income from crops over the same period last year.

Income from livestock and livestock products for the first quarter increased 12 percent over the same period last year, mostly because of substantial gains in receipts from hogs, cattle, and calves.

Table 2.—*Cash income from farm marketings, by States, March 1943 - 44.*

STATE	CROPS		LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS		TOTAL	
	MARCH		MARCH		MARCH	
	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944
	1,000 dollars	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Maine	9,460	12,747	3,277	3,547	12,737	16,294
New Hampshire	577	721	2,311	2,290	2,888	3,011
Vermont	1,501	1,631	5,011	4,739	6,512	6,370
Massachusetts	2,223	2,707	6,640	6,745	8,863	9,452
Rhode Island	193	220	885	918	1,078	1,138
Connecticut	2,851	2,950	5,362	5,161	8,213	8,111
New York	14,885	13,849	33,041	31,047	47,926	44,896
New Jersey	1,735	2,106	8,111	8,174	9,846	10,280
Pennsylvania	9,690	10,813	29,796	33,289	39,486	44,102
North Atlantic	*43,115*	*47,744*	*94,434*	*95,910*	*137,549*	*143,654*
Ohio	11,973	11,419	42,260	46,154	54,233	57,573
Indiana	9,032	8,965	42,288	44,658	51,320	53,623
Illinois	25,630	28,203	65,495	74,991	91,125	103,194
Michigan	13,345	11,977	24,729	24,887	38,074	36,864
Wisconsin	3,717	5,604	49,453	60,356	53,170	65,960
East North Central	*63,697*	*66,168*	*224,225*	*251,046*	*287,922*	*317,214*
Minnesota	9,856	11,466	57,302	66,835	67,158	78,301
Iowa	17,438	19,490	105,719	124,839	123,157	144,329
Missouri	4,361	5,552	37,457	43,160	41,818	48,712
North Dakota	10,617	17,022	8,806	10,124	19,423	27,146
South Dakota	4,282	4,833	17,899	23,070	22,181	27,903
Nebraska	9,578	12,745	44,214	55,719	53,792	68,464
Kansas	9,280	13,165	36,558	38,236	45,838	51,401
West North Central	*65,412*	*84,273*	*307,955*	*361,983*	*373,367*	*446,256*
Delaware	503	423	6,796	8,049	7,299	8,472
Maryland	1,277	1,110	8,553	9,349	9,830	10,459
Virginia	5,140	4,185	12,355	13,258	17,495	17,443
West Virginia	1,175	1,400	3,898	4,152	5,073	5,552
North Carolina	7,941	8,396	9,017	10,293	16,958	18,689
South Carolina	3,651	3,961	3,944	3,905	7,595	7,866
Georgia	6,935	6,024	7,429	7,769	14,364	13,793
Florida	38,920	39,398	3,127	3,928	42,047	43,326
South Atlantic	*65,542*	*64,897*	*55,119*	*60,703*	*120,661*	*125,600*
Kentucky	3,005	4,346	12,885	13,919	15,890	18,265
Tennessee	5,092	5,659	13,140	14,207	18,232	19,866
Alabama	3,904	4,275	6,279	6,871	10,183	11,146
Mississippi	6,247	5,715	5,801	6,312	12,048	12,027
Arkansas	5,315	2,954	8,997	11,315	14,312	14,269
Louisiana	5,091	6,214	3,793	4,647	8,884	10,861
Oklahoma	6,597	4,023	20,526	23,487	27,123	27,510
Texas	27,601	26,248	52,730	41,861	80,331	68,109
South Central	*62,852*	*59,434*	*124,151*	*122,619*	*187,003*	*182,053*
Montana	3,871	7,110	6,068	6,776	9,939	13,886
Idaho	6,728	9,415	6,849	8,821	13,577	18,236
Wyoming	787	1,311	2,848	3,390	3,635	4,701
Colorado	5,339	7,324	15,383	18,091	20,722	25,415
New Mexico	2,481	932	3,509	3,248	5,990	4,180
Arizona	13,602	11,053	2,737	4,990	16,339	16,043
Utah	1,164	1,459	4,814	5,331	5,978	6,790
Nevada	284	287	1,162	1,458	1,446	1,745
Washington	11,764	15,842	10,349	10,941	22,113	26,783
Oregon	4,544	6,924	7,109	8,150	11,653	15,074
California	59,255	52,442	33,250	33,313	92,505	85,755
Western	*109,819*	*114,099*	*94,078*	*104,509*	*203,897*	*218,608*
U. S. Cash Income	*410,437*	*436,615*	*899,962*	*996,770*	*1,310,399*	*1,433,385*

Table 3. - *Cash income from farm marketings, by States, January - March 1943 - 44*

STATE	CROPS		LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS		TOTAL	
	JANUARY - MARCH		JANUARY - MARCH		JANUARY - MARCH	
	1943	1944	1943	1944	1943	1944
	1,000 dollars	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*	*1,000 dollars*
Maine	25,328	36,442	9,173	9,509	34,501	45,951
New Hampshire	1,535	1,885	6,582	6,373	8,117	8,258
Vermont	2,921	3,230	13,554	13,366	16,475	16,596
Massachusetts	6,232	6,052	18,332	18,771	24,564	24,823
Rhode Island	501	687	2,512	2,704	3,013	3,391
Connecticut	9,276	7,080	14,529	14,802	23,805	21,882
New York	38,927	42,962	89,080	95,459	128,007	138,421
New Jersey	4,249	6,030	22,656	23,729	26,905	29,759
Pennsylvania	21,908	28,884	78,714	88,788	100,622	117,672
North Atlantic	*110,877*	*133,252*	*255,132*	*273,501*	*366,009*	*406,753*
Ohio	32,284	35,254	105,826	124,546	138,110	159,800
Indiana	27,182	29,353	109,191	129,654	136,373	159,007
Illinois	71,396	83,213	182,315	216,930	253,711	300,143
Michigan	32,078	32,104	64,303	75,051	96,381	107,155
Wisconsin	12,197	19,707	140,568	163,612	152,765	183,319
East North Central	*175,137*	*199,631*	*602,203*	*709,793*	*777,340*	*909,424*
Minnesota	26,127	29,891	158,994	189,878	185,121	219,769
Iowa	56,159	58,132	307,355	394,515	363,514	452,647
Missouri	20,474	22,657	105,301	131,378	125,775	154,035
North Dakota	26,658	34,912	26,360	33,409	53,018	68,322
South Dakota	11,653	12,273	53,011	70,507	64,664	82,780
Nebraska	28,027	39,394	112,282	152,830	140,309	192,224
Kansas	28,164	34,164	103,496	112,805	131,660	146,969
West North Central	*197,262*	*231,424*	*866,799*	*1,085,322*	*1,064,061*	*1,316,746*
Delaware	1,228	1,031	15,253	17,845	16,481	18,876
Maryland	3,675	2,989	22,320	25,418	25,995	28,407
Virginia	20,381	20,256	29,755	34,851	50,136	55,107
West Virginia	3,852	4,593	9,790	11,504	13,642	16,097
North Carolina	33,601	30,507	20,949	24,429	54,550	54,936
South Carolina	11,454	17,697	10,994	11,375	22,448	29,072
Georgia	19,081	24,548	20,594	25,510	39,675	50,058
Florida	86,696	97,362	13,317	14,672	100,013	112,034
South Atlantic	*179,968*	*198,983*	*142,972*	*165,604*	*322,940*	*364,587*
Kentucky	66,669	92,943	33,561	38,142	100,230	131,085
Tennessee	31,393	40,985	33,920	40,307	65,313	81,292
Alabama	10,767	21,159	18,529	19,487	29,296	40,646
Mississippi	25,670	27,662	14,739	16,945	40,409	44,607
Arkansas	28,185	23,183	24,054	27,550	52,239	50,733
Louisiana	21,326	25,412	11,156	15,547	32,482	40,959
Oklahoma	23,216	17,614	48,893	58,435	72,109	76,049
Texas	100,958	124,686	122,451	102,585	223,409	227,271
South Central	*308,184*	*373,644*	*307,303*	*318,998*	*615,487*	*692,642*
Montana	11,541	16,287	19,345	24,889	30,886	41,176
Idaho	17,484	26,115	20,181	25,949	37,665	52,064
Wyoming	2,883	3,936	8,085	9,944	10,968	13,880
Colorado	17,630	24,053	35,589	44,295	53,219	68,348
New Mexico	9,012	5,784	8,184	7,627	17,196	13,411
Arizona	27,869	27,660	9,440	9,563	37,309	37,223
Utah	3,102	4,259	14,722	15,616	17,824	19,875
Nevada	992	1,062	4,239	4,865	5,231	5,927
Washington	32,978	46,117	29,172	30,726	62,150	76,843
Oregon	13,163	20,512	20,966	22,774	34,129	43,286
California	151,130	149,975	93,935	100,123	245,065	250,098
Western	*287,784*	*325,760*	*263,858*	*296,371*	*551,642*	*622,131*
U. S. Cash Income	*1,259,212*	*1,462,694*	*2,438,267*	*2,849,589*	*3,697,479*	*4,312,283*

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